

Supporting Information S1

Detailed description of regulatory interactions

Reference: Krumsiek, Marr *et al.*, Hierarchical differentiation of myeloid progenitors is encoded in the transcription factor network, *PLoS ONE*.

Notation: \wedge = AND, \vee = OR, \overline{X} = not X

- $\text{GATA-2} = \text{GATA-2} \wedge (\overline{\text{GATA-1}} \wedge \text{FOG-1}) \wedge \text{PU.1}$

As described above, GATA-2 is an early hematopoietic transcription factor that directs differentiation into the MegE lineage by activating GATA-1. GATA-1 and FOG-1 in turn synergize to downregulate the activatory function of GATA-2 on its own promoter, pushing the differentiation process towards matured blood cells [1, 2]. As both factors are required to exhibit this repressive mechanism, we implemented their influence towards GATA-2 with a Boolean AND gate.

- $\text{GATA-1} = (\text{GATA-1} \vee \text{GATA-2} \vee \text{Fli-1}) \wedge \overline{\text{PU.1}}$

GATA-2 is expressed in immature hematopoietic progenitor cells and activates GATA-1 to drive differentiation towards the MegE lineage [1]. GATA-1, in turn, activates its own expression by direct interaction of a GATA-1 homodimer protein complex with the GATA-1 proximal promoter [3, 4, 5]. Starck et al. [6] found that the GATA-1 downstream factor Fli-1 enhances the stimulatory activity of GATA-1 on GATA-1-responsive promoters. We assume this to have a positive effect on the autoregulation of GATA-1, making Fli-1 an indirect GATA-1 transcriptional activator. Finally, PU.1 and GATA-1 mutually inhibit each other's promoter activity in both mice [7, 8] and human [9] cells.

- $\text{FOG-1} = \text{GATA-1}$

The transcription factor FOG-1 acts as a cofactor of GATA-1 and is necessary for megakaryocytic and erythroid differentiation [10, 11]. Iwasaki et al. [12] demonstrated that GATA-1 upregulates FOG-1 expression in lymphoid or granulocyte/megakaryocyte progenitor cells.

- $\text{EKLF} = \text{GATA-1} \wedge \overline{\text{Fli-1}}$
 $\text{Fli-1} = \text{GATA-1} \wedge \overline{\text{EKLF}}$

GATA-1 has been shown to be crucial for the expression of the erythrocyte lineage factor EKLF [13]. Moreover, there is evidence for the regulation of the megakaryocyte transcription factor Fli-1 by GATA-1 [14]. Studies of the dependence of GATA-1 on its cofactor showed that FOG-1 is dispensable for the induction of EKLF by GATA-1 [15, 16]. In addition, EKLF and Fli-1 repress each other's transcriptional activity on erythrocyte- and megakaryocyte-specific promoters, respectively [6]. This mutual inhibitory circuit creates the decision switch in the MegE lineage.

- $\text{SCL} = \text{GATA-1} \wedge \overline{\text{PU.1}}$

SCL is a central hematopoietic player required for both primitive and definitive hematopoiesis [17, 18]. However, sustaining the expression of SCL requires different activators during the differentiation process. GATA-1 has been shown to specifically target the SCL promoter during erythroid differentiation [19]. PU.1 inhibits the expression of SCL [20] in the same context. Thus, the SCL player in our model solely represents the SCL protein which is active in the MegE lineage.

- $\text{C/EBP}\alpha = \text{C/EBP}\alpha \wedge (\overline{\text{GATA-1}} \wedge \overline{\text{FOG-1}} \wedge \overline{\text{SCL}})$

The major granulocyte/monocyte transcription factor C/EBP α has been shown to be a strong promoter of its own gene [21]. However, to the best of our knowledge, there is no experimental evidence for upstream regulatory factors of C/EBP α (literature research and personal communication). However, the factor is strongly downregulated during megakaryocyte/erythrocyte development [22] and thus requires one of the factors from the opposing lineage to be a direct or indirect inhibitor of C/EBP α . In our model the inhibition could be exhibited by, for instance, GATA-1, SCL or FOG-1. For the model derivation process, we require all three of these MegE factors to be active to constitute C/EBP α inhibition.

- $\text{PU.1} = (\text{C/EBP}\alpha \vee \text{PU.1}) \wedge (\overline{\text{GATA-1}} \vee \overline{\text{GATA-2}})$

$\text{C/EBP}\alpha$ is known to be a major inducer of PU.1 during GM development and drives the CMP to GMP transition. It directly binds to a distal cis-regulatory element upstream of the PU.1 promoter to stimulate PU.1 mRNA transcription [23, 24]. PU.1 has been shown to autoregulate its expression in murine and human myeloid cells [25]. An autoregulatory loop mediated by an upstream regulatory element of the PU.1 promoter has been postulated by Okuno et al. [25]. In addition, as described above, PU.1 and the GATA factors mutually antagonize each other's promoter activity. The binding of GATA-1 and GATA-2 proteins to the PU.1 promoter and subsequent repression have been shown by Chou et al. [7].

- $\text{cJun} = \text{PU.1} \wedge \overline{\text{Gfi-1}}$

Steidl et al. [26] demonstrated the necessity of PU.1 for the expression of cJun in preleukemic mouse hematopoietic stem cells. It is to be noted that no mechanistic explanation for this regulatory interaction is provided in the study. Dahl et al. [27] reported that the granulocytic transcription factor Gfi-1 antagonizes the transcriptional activity of PU.1. This interaction does not reflect a change of the expression state of PU.1 but rather an alteration of its effect as an activator of its target genes. Thus, we included Gfi-1 in the equation of cJun as a repressor of the activation by PU.1. In human hematopoietic differentiation, cJun is known to positively autoregulate its own promoter [28]. However, since no comparable study has been published for murine hematopoiesis, we did not include such an autoregulatory loop of cJun in the model.

- $\text{EgrNab} = (\text{PU.1} \wedge \text{cJun}) \wedge \overline{\text{Gfi-1}}$

We integrate the monocytic transcription factors Egr-1, Egr-2 and Nab-2 into a combined pseudo-player EgrNab as proposed by Laslo et al. [29]. The transcriptional action of PU.1 has been shown to rely on the cofactor cJun, both proteins constituting a heterodimeric protein complex PU.1:cJun [30]. Thus, we subsequently model their regulation with a logical AND. Laslo et al. [29] proposed a mutual antagonism between EgrNab and Gfi-1 based on knockdown and overexpression experiments. Note that the antagonistic effect of Gfi-1 on EgrNab is also explainable as an effect of the repressive influence of Gfi-1 on PU.1-dependent transcription (cf. cJun above).

- $\text{Gfi-1} = \text{C/EBP}\alpha \wedge \overline{\text{EgrNab}}$

Laslo et al. [29] proposed an activatory influence of $\text{C/EBP}\alpha$ towards Gfi-1 based on both phenomenological observations and subsequent modeling approaches. In addition, as mentioned before, EgrNab and Gfi-1 constitute a mutual antagonistic regulatory circuit.

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